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*Dorothy DeFrancesco*  
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Attorney Docket No. 00447CD/HG

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

This is a request for filing a

☐ Continuation

☒ Divisional

application under 37 CFR 1.53(b), of pending prior application Serial Number 09/598,605, filed on June 21, 2000.

Inventors	Residence (City & Country)
Masahiro KAWAKAMI	Fukuyama, Japan
Terutoshi SAWADA	Yokohama, Japan
Takeshi SEKIGUCHI	Yokohama, Japan
Masayuki WATANABE	Yokohama, Japan
Katsuhiro IWASAKI	Yokohama, Japan
Shinichi ISOZAKI	Yokohama, Japan
Junichi FUKUMI	Tokyo, Japan

entitled: REFINING METHOD OF MOLTEN IRON AND SMELTING  
REDUCTION METHOD FOR PRODUCING MOLTEN IRON

- ☒ Enclosed is a copy of the prior application including a copy of the Oath or Declaration.
- ☒ A Preliminary Amendment is enclosed.

## ASSIGNMENT INFORMATION FOR PUBLICATION:

NKK CORPORATION  
Tokyo, Japan

- ☒ FEE: The filing fee is calculated below:

Claims as filed, less any claims cancelled by amendment herewith:

	Number Filed		Number Extra	Rate	Calculations
Total Claims	8 - 20	=		x \$18.00 =	\$
Independent Claims	1 - 3	=		x \$84.00 =	\$
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS				+ \$280.00 =	\$
				BASIC FEE	\$ 740.00
				Total of above Calculations	\$ 740.00

- ☒ To the extent not rendered by check, authorization is given to charge any fees under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17 during pendency of the application, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 06-1378. Duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed.
- ☒ A check in the amount of \$ 740.00 is enclosed.
- ☒ Cancel claim 1 to 23 and 28 to 37, without prejudice.

J1036 U.S. PTO  
09/974511  
10/10/01

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7. ☐ Amend the specification by inserting before the first line the sentence: This is a ☐ continuation, ☐ division of application Serial Number \_\_\_\_\_ filed \_\_\_\_\_.
8. ☒ New formal drawings are enclosed. 24 Sheets, Figs. 1 to 26.
9. ☒ The prior application is assigned to NKK CORPORATION, recorded on October 24, 2000 at Reel 011214, Frame 0706.
10. ☐ Copies of Verified Statement(s) claiming Small Entity Status filed in said application Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_. Small entity status is still proper and desired.
11. ☒ Incorporation by Reference: The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which a copy of the oath or declaration is supplied under Box 1a or 1b, is considered as being part of the disclosure of the accompanying application and is hereby incorporated by reference therein.
12. ☒ The Power of Attorney in the prior application includes the following:

LEONARD HOLTZ, Reg. No. 22,974  
THOMAS LANGER, Reg. No. 27,264  
RICHARD S. BARTH, Reg. No. 28,180  
ROBERT P. MICHAL, Reg. No. 35,614

HERBERT H. GOODMAN, Reg. No. 17,081  
MARSHALL J. CHICK, Reg. No. 26,853  
DOUGLAS HOLTZ, Reg. No. 33,902

- 13a. ☒ The power appears in the original papers of the prior application.
- 13b. ☐ Since the power does not appear in the original papers, a copy of the power in the prior application is enclosed.
14. ☒ Address all future communications to:

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15. ☒ Priority claim is made based upon

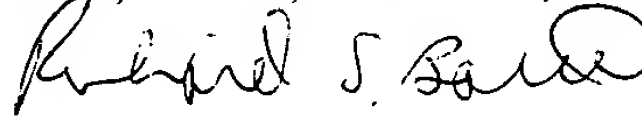
35 USC 119: Japanese Patent Appln. 09-368429, filed December 26, 1997  
Japanese Patent Appln. 09-368430, filed December 26, 1997  
Japanese Patent Appln. 09-368431, filed December 26, 1997  
Japanese Patent Appln. 10-019997, filed January 30, 1998  
Japanese Patent Appln. 10-119714, filed April 28, 1998  
Japanese Patent Appln. 10-119715, filed April 28, 1998

35 USC 120: International Appln. PCT/JP98/05852, filed December 24, 1998  
U.S. Serial No. 09/598,605, filed June 21, 2000

Certified copies of the Japanese priority documents were filed on September 11, 2000 in application Serial No. 09/598,605.

16. ☒ Information Disclosure Statement ☒ PTO/SB/08A ☒ PTO/SB/08B

FRISHAUF, HOLTZ, GOODMAN, LANGER & CHICK, P.C.



RSB/ddf  
Enclosures

By: Richard S. Barth, Reg. No. 28,180